

NEWS IN BRIEF.

PERSONAL.

—William F. Phillips, white, manager of the Tennessee Jubilee Singers, decamped from Omaha the other day, leaving the black minstrels destitute, with five weeks' salary due.

—The Appletons have offered Gen. Sherman \$50,000 for the copyright of his "Memoirs."

—Daniel O'Leary, a Chicago pedestrian, recently attempted the arduous feat of walking 500 miles in 156 hours, and succeeded with nearly three hours to spare. Fifty miles were gone over in nine hours, and 290 miles in less than fifty hours.

—Hon. George Vail, ex-Congressman, and formerly Consul at Glasgow, died at Morristown, N. J., last week, aged 72. He was concerned with his father, his brother, and Prof. Morse, in perfecting the telegraph.

—Moody and Sankey continue to hold revival meetings daily, and there is no diminution in the number of people who gather to hear them.

—The Papal envoys paid a visit to the President last week, and tendered the compliments of the Holy Father at Rome. They were cordially received by the President.

GENERAL.

—The Memphis Water Works have been sold for the benefit of mortgage bondholders. The price paid was \$170,000—but little more than half the cost of the works.

—Messrs. Red Cloud, Spotted Tail, Lone Horn, Man-with-green-goggles, Man-afraid-of-his-horses, and other "noble" red men from the far West, have been in Washington for several days negotiating for the sale of the Black Hills to the government. These savages have manifested a good deal of impudence and bad temper during their sojourn at the National Capital, some of them indulging in such threats if their demands were not complied with. The other day they called on the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and demanded, in a royal manner, an immediate transfer of their quarters to the house where they have stopped on former occasions, alleging that the rooms where they were stopping were too small. The real reason was that there was no bar at that hotel, while at their quarters there was plenty of whisky. The Commissioner refused to make the change, but offered to give them a camp and tent and food. The Indians left the Commissioner in very bad humor, stating that they wanted their old quarters or none at all.

—A new horse disease has made its appearance in St. Louis, and seems to be spreading. Its effects are far more fatal than those characterizing the epizootic of 1872.

—A Kansas City dispatch says: "The grasshoppers came into town and covered sidewalks, fences, yards, etc., and the citizens instead of going to church have been destroying them all day by bushels. In many places so many have been killed that an almost mendacious stench has been created, and sanitary measures have been taken to prevent disease. One man dug a trench 800 feet long, into which he drives them and kills millions. Independence, six miles from here, is worse off than we are."

—Advices from the Mexican border once more indicate a serious and threatening phase of affairs in that troublesome region. It is said there are well-authenticated reports to the effect that Cortina, the famous bandit, has organized a force of about 3,000 desperadoes, and that he intends a raid of murder and pillage farther toward the heart of Texas than the Mexican incursions have hitherto penetrated.

—News from Pennsylvania is to the effect that the forest fires in the lumber region were quenched by the recent heavy rains.

CRIME AND CRIMINALS.

—Jacob Young, living in the suburbs of Brooklyn, N. Y., last Saturday night, murdered his second wife by chopping her head off with an ax, and then went to the cemetery, where he blew out his brains on the grave of his first wife.

—Another horrible murder has been committed in Boston. A little girl five years of age, named Mabel H. Young, the child of a widow very respectably connected, attended Sunday school at the Warren Avenue Baptist Church, last Sunday. After the school, the child became separated from her friends, and after a search was found in the tower of the church, her body terribly mangled. It is supposed she was murdered, and her body carried to the place where found. Thomas Piper, sexton of the church, has been arrested on suspicion of perpetrating the terrible deed.

—The murder of the little girl Mabel Young, at Boston, has been supplemented by the attempt of a jealous tailor named Chris. Burr, to take the life of Miss Martha Hubbard, a book-keeper in a large clothing house where Burr was employed. Miss Hubbard's refusal to marry him was the cause of a deadly assault upon her, she being fearfully stabbed in the shoulder a number of times with a pair of long tailors' shears. She will probably recover.

—It is now thought that the pilferings of Jackson, the Boston defaulter, will reach from \$800,000 to \$1,000,000.

—Another revolt occurred last week in the Nebraska Penitentiary, at Lincoln, led by the notorious Wm. McWaters. The guards fired upon the revolvers, instantly killing McWaters, which ended the rioting.

—Abraham Jackson, the Boston defaulter, has been captured in New York State.

—In New York, last week, Officer Henry Rex shot and instantly killed John C. McKenna, aged 14, for teasing him.

—Madame Ristori, the noted actress, was recently robbed of five valuable diamonds while traveling between St. Louis and Kansas City.

FIRES AND CASUALTIES.

—The great fire in Tioga county, Pa., last week, was a most disastrous calamity, and came near resulting in a large destruction of

human life, which was only arrested by the energy and leniency of Train-Master Wood, who hastily got together a train of box cars, into which the panic-stricken people were hurried, and the train made four trips at lightning speed through the blazing woods on either side of the track, conveying a thousand men, women and children to a place of safety. At Osceola 250 horses were burned, and 400 families rendered homeless. The village of Mountdale was totally destroyed, and about 100 families bereft of their homes. The pecuniary loss of the fires will reach about \$3,000,000.

—Incendiary fires at Minneapolis, Minn., last week, consumed two lumbering establishments, causing a loss of about \$80,000.

—The soda water manufactory of Dones & Co., at Boston, exploded very mysteriously last week, utterly demolishing the entire building, and burying a score or more of people beneath the falling walls. The proprietors deny that there was any nitro-glycerine in the store, and can give no explanation of the affair.

—The large cotton mill of D. B. Smith & Co., at New Hartford, Conn., was destroyed by fire a few days since, the loss being about \$125,000.

—Large forest fires are prevailing in the neighborhood of Escanaba, Mich., and dense smoke envelopes the town. Passengers by the Northwestern road report the fires severe along the road, and the heat intense.

—The steamer Mollie Eberts and Juniata, and three barges, were burned at Pittsburgh, last week, involving a loss of \$125,000.

—A fire at Tilton, N. H., last week, destroyed several buildings, with a loss of \$75,000; insurance, \$50,000. Twenty families were rendered homeless.

—At Holliston, Mass., recently, a large hotel and some ten or twelve other buildings in the center of the town were consumed by fire, involving a loss of over \$100,000.

POLITICAL.

—The Woman's State Temperance Convention of Missouri met at St. Louis recently, and petitioned the Constitutional Convention at Jefferson City on the subject of putting a clause in the Constitution giving the ballot to women.

—Mr. Pierpont, the new Attorney-General, is soon to investigate the affairs of United States Marshals in the South.

—The Sergeant-at-Arms of the House, Ordway, is in a peculiar predicament. He has been elected a member of the New Hampshire Legislature, with a prospect of securing the Speakership of the House, which is to meet in a few weeks; but it appears there is no way for him to get rid of his present office, as no one can receive his resignation.

—The General Assembly of Rhode Island has completed its election by confirming Henry Lippett for Governor and Henry T. Sisson for Lieutenant-Governor.

—At the Pennsylvania Republican State Convention at Lancaster last week, Gov. Hartranft was renominated by acclamation, and H. W. Rawie, Mayor of Erie, was nominated for State Treasurer. Among the subjects of the platform adopted were: Equality of all men before the law; the harmony of the Federal and State governments; the unity of the nation; in favor of civil rights; adherence to the unwritten law of the country limiting the Presidency to two terms; protection to home industries; protection to labor; cheap transportation; free banking, and indorsement of Hartranft's and Grant's administrations, and the whisky crusade, and favoring a general system of laws regulating municipal governments.

—The President in his interview with the Sioux delegation at Washington recently, made, for him, quite a long speech, from which the following is an extract: "I want to see the Indians well provided for, in such a way that the arrangements will have to be respected by my successor and other administrations for the future." In political circles this is regarded as an abandonment of the third-term principle.

FINANCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

—The Chicago Times publishes a number of dispatches showing the probabilities of wheat and other growing crops in the West. Most sections of Iowa report an exceedingly fine condition of the fields, and the indications from Wisconsin, Minnesota and Dakota are encouraging. Fall grain is generally poor and light in parts of Illinois.

—The strike of the Lowell mule-spinners has been amicably adjusted by the workmen signing a document to the effect that, as long as the remain in the employ of the company, they shall not become members of any association or union that assumes the right to regulate in any way interfere with prices or hours of labor. Work has also been generally resumed in the coal mines of the Lehigh region.

RAILROAD INTELLIGENCE.

—The Supreme Court of the State of New York has placed the Erie railroad in the hands of a receiver.

—A new schedule of freight rates has been adopted by the leading Western railroads running east from Chicago and St. Louis. A great reduction is made, the tariff being based on a 30-cent rate per 100 pounds from Chicago to New York.

FOREIGN.

—It is rumored in London that Disraeli will resign at the close of the present session of Parliament.

—Judge Keogh, of Dublin, has decided that the late John Mitchell was disqualified from holding a seat in Parliament.

—The German Ambassador at Brussels has requested the prohibition of religious processions in Belgium.

—A religious procession, passing through the streets of the Belgian capital on Sunday last, was attacked and dispersed by the populace, who, in turn, were dispersed by the police with drawn swords, and ten of the rioters were arrested.

—Disraeli announced in the British House of Commons, recently, that the Queen had endeavored to secure peace between France and Germany, and had received a satisfactory reply, which it would be impolitic to publish at present.

—Seventy lives were lost on one of the rivers in the province of Tyrol, Austria, a few days

since, by the sinking of a ferry-boat. The unfortunate were nearly all Catholics, on a visit to the shrine of a patron saint.

—The Upper House of the Prussian Diet has passed bills for the suppression of convents, and relative to the administration of church property.

—The Prussian government, fearing a disturbance, has forbidden processions in honor of the Pope's jubilee.

CLOUDED REASON.

The Widow of Abraham Lincoln Adjudged Insane and sent to a Private Mad-House.
(From the Chicago Tribune.)

The death of President Lincoln was one of the nation's saddest misfortunes, — a misfortune that it has not yet outlived. The fact that he had fallen by the hand of the assassin only tended to intensify the public grief, and to add to the gloom which settled upon the popular heart. But to none was the calamity so painful, and upon none were its traces so continuous and marked, as his immediate family and intimate personal friends. The nation put on the garb of mourning, to be worn off by time or effaced by the rapid succession of great national events; but the hearts of his family were pierced, deeply and eternally. Especially was this true with his widow and oldest son, the former of whom, at the time, it was feared, would lose her mind. In fact, the effect was visible in her subsequent life and conduct, which time seemed to heighten and increase. The death of a son was one of the afflictions which her mind, then failing, was soon called upon to endure. Travel, change of scenes and associations, the best of medical care, all failed to arrest the premonitions of a failing mind. The lavish affection of her children, the consolation of her friends, and the nation's sympathy, failed to arrest the symptoms of insanity or to lighten her mind of the immense burden it was tottering beneath. She continued to decline, not only in vigor of mind, but in physical condition, nothing seeming to avail her in her grief and declining years.

So feeble had become the state of her mind, and as a consequence so eccentric her nature and habits of life, that, Saturday last, a council of the leading physicians of the city and her personal friends was held to consider what was best to be done for her. She was stopping at the Grand Pacific Hotel, and from the uncertainty of her demeanor it was felt that something was necessary to be done to protect her life from her own hands, and to secure her from bodily harm.

The result of the council was an agreement to petition Judge Wallace, of the County Court, to make an order of warrant and venire to try the question of her sanity. The warrant was accordingly issued yesterday, when a jury, composed of Dr. S. C. Blake, C. B. Farwell, C. M. Henderson, S. M. Moore, L. J. Gage, H. C. Durand, S. B. Parkhurst, William Stewart, D. R. Cameron, J. A. Mason, J. McGregor Adams, and Thos. Coggeswell, was impaneled for the said trial, and Mrs. Mary Lincoln was brought into court. The unfortunate lady entered the court-room scarcely observed, and certainly without her sad mission being known, except by the friends who accompanied her, and the large number of witnesses who had been summoned. The lady was pallid, her eye was watery and excited, and her general appearance that of one suffering from nervous excitement. She was attired in a plain black suit, and was neat and comely of appearance. In the party accompanying her was her son, whose every feature was marked with sadness. His eyes, too, were suffused with tears, as were also those of several others of the party. The persons entering the court-room had more the appearance of a funeral procession than anything else, and their appearance was the signal for a breathless silence among the few in the room at the time.

She took a seat facing his Honor, and by her side sat her counselor and friend, and the biographer of her husband, the Hon. I. N. Arnold. The petitioner, her son, Robert T. Lincoln, took a seat near him and obliquely to her left. Beside him sat the Hon. Leonard Swett and B. F. Ayer, counsel for the petitioner, while in front of them and on the west side of the room were seated the jurors who were to pass upon one of the most important and regretful cases ever presented to a court.

After the examination of a large number of witnesses, friends and relatives of the family—including the eldest son, Robert T. Lincoln—whose testimony left no doubt in the minds of the jury that the mind of the unfortunate lady has been for years the prey to growing madness, and that she ought to be placed under restraint, the jury retired and in a few minutes returned with the following verdict:

We, the undersigned, jurors in the case of

Mary Lincoln, alleged to be insane, having heard the evidence in the case, are satisfied that the said Mary Lincoln is insane, and is a fit person to be sent to a State Hospital for the Insane; that she is a resident of the State of Illinois and county of Cook; that her age is 56 years; that the disease is of unknown duration, and is not with her hereditary; that she is not subject to epilepsy; that she does not manifest homicidal or suicidal tendencies, and that she is not a pauper.

The verdict was received by Mrs. Lincoln without any visible emotions. She was stolid and unmoved, and did not allow its reading to interrupt the conversation in which she was engaged with Mr. Arnold.

Immediately after the verdict was announced the court-room was deserted. Mr. Swett obtained an order of the court for her delivery to the proper officer, who served the necessary papers upon her with duplicates.

A consultation of her friends was then had, when it was agreed that she should be committed to the care of the Bellevue Place, Batavia, Ill., superintended by Dr. R. J. Patterson.

THE LATEST HORROR.

Seventy-five People Lose Their Lives by the Burning of a Church at South Holyoke, Mass.

The French Catholic Church at South Holyoke, Mass., was the scene of a dreadful calamity last week. The draperies of the altar caught fire from a candle, which quickly spread, and a dreadful loss of life ensued. Those who were not roasted in the flames were trampled to death by the struggling mass making for the door. At least seventy-five people lost their lives on this sad occasion.

The exercises had nearly closed when the flame from a candle caught the drapery around the statue of the Virgin Mary, streamed up and caught the building. Immediately a panic ensued, and people rushed for doors. There was but one entrance to the gallery, and that from the front on the stairway leading from the gallery. The people were packed in a solid mass, struggling to clear themselves as the flames rushed in that direction, and this soon became blocked, rendering exit impossible. Many jumped over the sides of the galleries on the crowd beneath, and were trampled on and killed.

The priest's residence joins the church on the rear, and many escaped through an entrance leading to the house back of the altar. The priest's exertions to keep order were fruitless. The screams of the living and the moans of the dying made a deafening tumult above the orders of the pastor, who worked most heroically and was personally instrumental in saving many lives.

One family of four were in the church, and all were killed. Many were pulled out by the arms and feet, so badly burned that they lived but a few hours, the flesh peeling off on being touched. Some were taken out with scarcely any flesh remaining on their bones.

Several members of one of the hose companies were playing ball near the church when the fire broke out, and a relief steamer was out for practice, so that the Fire Department was promptly on the spot; but as the building was a small affair with only one entrance, and the audience numbered about 700, the scene was frightful while it lasted—the whole lasting but fifteen minutes.

TRAMPS.

The tramp nuisance is so rapidly increasing in magnitude that the newspapers in various parts of the country are discussing the best means to break up the system of professional vagrancy which has assumed such alarming proportions. One of the latest exploits reported of these strolling mendicants is the burning of an elevator for amusement by a couple of tramps in Indianapolis. This exquisite practical joke cost the owners of the property \$75,000. The Reading Eagle says that the numerous robberies lately committed by tramps in that region, and the number of barns and outbuildings burned by them through carelessness, or else in revenge for the refusal of the owners to comply with their insolent demands for tribute, are awaking the attention of the people of Pennsylvania to the magnitude of this great and constantly growing evil. The local remedy for its correction proposed by the Eagle is the establishment of a workhouse and industrial farm, where all able-bodied tramps should be sent, the farm to be located on poor soil which may be bought very cheap, and which by the labor of the paupers may be so enhanced in value as to be sold at a large profit, when the experiment may be renewed in another place.

A NEW WAY TO MEASURE GRAIN.

A good story is told of a Tioga county merchant who agreed to take a farmer's oats at forty cents a bushel if the latter would let him tramp the measure when filled. The farmer agreed to it. The buyer paid for sixty bushels, and the next day went after them. The farmer filled the half bushel, and then the merchant got in and tramped them down. Whereupon the farmer poured the oats so compressed into the bag. The merchant protested, and demanded that the measure should be filled up after tramping. The farmer informed him that there was no agreement of that sort, but that he might tramp down the oats to his heart's content after they were measured.

ANSWERING LETTERS.

A great many people in this country are shamefully negligent about answering letters. Nothing is more annoying. In European countries it is regarded as the height of ill-breeding to allow a letter which needs a reply to go unanswered, and so it ought to be considered here. This is a point on which parents should lay great stress to their children. They should be taught to consider it as rude not to reply to a letter which needs attention as to hand a fork with the prong end. The busiest people are generally those who are the most exact in this respect. The late Duke of Wellington, who, it will be admitted, had a good deal on his hands at different times of his life, replied to every letter, no matter from how humble a source. Once a clergyman, who lived in a distant part of the kingdom, wrote to his grace, on whom neither he nor his parish had a shadow of claim, to beg for a subscription to rebuild a church. By return of mail came back a letter from the Duke to the effect that he really could not see why in the world he should have been applied to for such an object; but the parson sold the letter as an autograph for £5, and put the Duke down for that amount among the subscribers.

WALT WHITMAN ON THE TRIAL.

Walt Whitman is devoting his leisure moments to the composition of a poem on the scandal. A few lines will serve to show that the terrors of his genius are unabated:

"Cornea of posterous peccadilloes!"

Plagues, pestilence, slaughter, famine,

arson, murder, tempest,

lightning, shipwreck, North

Pacific bonds, and Orange

county butter—

What are these to that, or this to those?

Warning the Pole; using the Equator;

Sitting sad, solitary; weeping, exclaiming,

flying, all around the world, and

on the rocks of Terra del Fuego,

Partnership horrors! Partisanship woes!

Succotash of social slime! Immense,

Dimming the argut plebeians!

Much, slush, mush, Shearman and

O, Elizabeth! O, Henry!"

A derrick is building at Camden, New

Jersey, to lift the poem into popularity.

—Brooklyn Argus.

ONE OF ARTEMUS WARD'S JOKES.

Artemus Ward was one day lying upon the sofa enjoying a cigar in the little office of his publisher, in New York, when a telegraphic dispatch from San Francisco was handed him. It was from Mr. McGuire, of the Opera-House, who inquired, "What will you take for ten nights in California?" Without a moment's reflection or changing his position, he wrote his reply in three words and handed it to the messenger, as follows: "Brandy and water—A. Ward." This was not all he did take, however; for soon afterward McGuire engaged showman and he lectured in California with extraordinary success. The little dispatch—a ten dollar joke—was published in the San Francisco papers, and set everybody to laughing and anticipating the author's arrival.

Oak timber is rapidly disappearing from Europe, although half of the area of Sweden, one-fourth that of Norway, one-sixth that of Switzerland, and 780,000 square miles in European Russia, are stated to be yet in forest.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.		
BEANS—Dressed.....	11	@ 13
HOES—Dressed.....	8	@ 9
COTTON.....	15 1/2	@ 16 1/2
FLOUR—Superfine Western.....	4 70	@ 4 95
WHEAT—No. 2 Chicago.....	1 12	@ 1 14
No. 1 Spring.....	29	@ 1 23
CORN—No. 2.....	75	@ 77
OATS.....	75	@ 77
RYE.....	1 07	@ 1 09
BARLEY—No. 2.....	21 50	@ 21 75
LARD—Stearns.....	14 1/2	@ 14 3/4
CHICAGO.		
BEANS—Choice Graded Steers.....	6 25	@ 6 50
Choice Natives.....	5 75	@ 6 25
Good to Prime Steers.....	5 50	@ 5 80
Cows and Heifers.....	5 25	@ 5 50
Medium to Fair.....	5 00	@ 5 50
Interior to Common.....	2 50	@ 3 50
HOGS—Live.....	7 25	@ 7 75
FLOUR—Fancy White Winter.....	7 00	@ 7 50
Red Winter.....	5 50	@ 6 00
WHEAT—No. 1 Spring.....	29	@ 1 00
No. 2 Spring.....	29	@ 31
No. 3 Spring.....	82	@ 90
CORN—No. 2 New.....	61	@ 63
OATS—No. 2.....	56	@ 58
RYE—No. 2.....	1 05	@ 1 06
BARLEY—No. 2.....	1 29	@ 1 22
BUTTER—Fancy.....	26	@ 30
EGGS—Fresh.....	14	@ 15
PORE—Mess.....	19 50	@ 19 75
LARD—Stearns.....	14 1/2	@ 14 3/4
ST. LOUIS.		
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.....	1 28	@ 1 30
CORN—No. 2 New.....	63	@ 65
OATS—No. 2.....	60	@ 62
RYE—No. 2.....	1 05	@ 1 06
PORE—Mess.....	20 50	@ 20 75
LARD—Stearns.....	14 1/2	@ 14 3/4
HOGS.....	6 25	@ 7 50
CATTLE.....	4 75	@ 5 50
MILWAUKEE.		
WHEAT—No. 1.....	97	@ 99
CORN—No. 2.....	61	@ 63
OATS—No. 2.....	61	@ 63
RYE—No. 2.....	1 08	@ 1 10
BARLEY—No. 2.....	1 23	@ 1 25
CLEVELAND.		
WHEAT—Red.....	1 25	@ 1 30
CORN—New.....	74	@ 75
OATS.....	68	@ 72
RYE.....	1 08	@ 1 25
PORE—Mess.....	20 00	@ 20 25
LARD.....	14 1/2	@ 14 3/4
DETROIT.		
WHEAT—Extra.....	72	@ 74
CORN—Amber.....	72	@ 74
OATS.....	63	@ 65
CLEVELAND.		
WHEAT—No. 1 Red.....	1 26	@ 1 28
CORN—No. 2 Red.....	1 20	@ 1 25
OATS.....	63	@ 65